

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 12521 081030Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 INSE-00
CIAE-00 /044 W

-----012205 081033Z /14

O P 080712Z SEP 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO AMECGASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

UNCLAS HONG KONG 12521

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF
SUBJ: FRENCH SHIP NORMANDIE

1. FRENCH CONSUL GENERAL RODRIQUES HAS REQUESTED OUR HELP REGARDING FRENCH OWNED/REGISTERED TANKER NORMANDIE WHICH PICKED UP 60 INDOCHINESE REFUGEES IN SOUTH CHINA SEA WHILE PROCEEDING TO KAO-HSIUNG TAIWAN, NEXT PORT OF CALL. SHIP DUE IN KAO-HSIUNG LATE AFTERNOON 9 SEPT. SHIP'S CAPTAIN HAS INFORMED RODRIQUES THAT HE HAS SIGNALLED KAO-HSIUNG AUTHORITIES REGARDING REFUGEES, REQUESTING PERMISSION THEY BE ALLOWED TO LAND. ROC AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT YET REPLIED TO SHIP.

2. FRENCH CONGEN WOULD APPRECIATE IF AMEMBASSY TAIPEI WOULD CONTACT APPROPRIATE TAIWAN AUTHORITIES TO CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSGE:

QUOTE THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF FRANCE IN HONG KONG PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFIARS AND HAS THE HONOUR TO INFORM THE LATTER THAT THE FRENCH TANKER "NORMANDIE" OF THE SOCIETE DES TRANSPORTS MARITIMES IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN TAIWAN ON 9TH SEPTEMBER WITH 60 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ON BOARD.

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THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN THE GUARANTEE THAT ALL THE REFUGEES WHO WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED BY A THIRD COUNTRY WILL BE ADMITTED TO FRANCE, IF POSSIBLE A FEW DAYS AFTER THEIR LANDING AND IN ANY CASE BEFORE NINETY (90) DAYS.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF THE REFUGEES COULD LAND IN TAIWAN AND RECEIVE THE

HUMANITARIAN TREATMENT THAT TAIWAN HAS ALREADY
GRANTED PREVIOUSLY TO REFUGEES FROM VIETNAM.
THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF FRANCE THANKS THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR ITS KIND ATTENTION AND AVAILS
ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE LATTER
THE ASSURANCE OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END QUOTE.

3. JARDINES LTD. ARE THE SHIP'S AGENTS IN TAIWAN, AND
THEY MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING
STATUS OF SHIPS REQUEST RE PERMISSION TO LAND REFUGEES.
UNDERSTAND NEXT PORT-OF-CALL IS SINGAPORE.

SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HONGK12521
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780365-1252
Format: TEL
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780989/aaaacvww.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d8aade55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1506744
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH SHIP NORMANDIE
TAGS: SREF
To: TAIPEI
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d8aade55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014